

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 018492

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 H-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 AID-05 ORM-02 /022 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER/BTK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, HA

SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN RANGEL'S VISIT TO HAITI

1. CONGRESSMAN RANGEL VOLUNTEERED TO DEBRIEF DEPT OFFICERS FOLLOWING HIS TRIP TO HAITI, AND HE MET JANUARY 25 WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS AND OTHER DEPT AND AID OFFICERS. DISCUSSION FOCUSED PARTICULARLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS, PROGRESS ALREADY ACHIEVED IN THAT AREA, AND STEPS NECESSARY FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT. RANGEL ALSO COMMENTED SEVERAL TIMES THAT OUR AID PROGRAM IN HAITI IS VERY SUCCESSFUL IN REACHING THE RURAL POOR AND IS IN MANY WAYS A MODEL OF WHAT AN AID PROGRAM SHOULD BE.

2. CONGRESSMAN RANGEL BELIEVES THAT PRESENT GOH HAS MADE NOTEWORTHY PROGRESS IN HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS DUVALIER REGIME. HOWEVER, THERE WERE STRONG INDICATIONS DURING HIS VISIT OF GOH INTENTION TO TAKE SOME SIGNIFICANT FURTHER HUMAN RIGHTS MEASURE BEFORE HE LEFT THE COUNTRY. BUT THERE ARE "NO RESULTS YET".

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3. CONGRESSMAN RANGEL BELIEVES HE CAN NOW USEFULLY MAKE CONCRETE SUGGESTIONS TO AMBASSADOR SALOMON ON HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS IN HAITI. HE FEELS HE CAN SPEAK VERY CANDIDLY TO SALOMON, WHO WILL RECEIVE HIS OBSERVATIONS AS FRIENDLY ADVICE RATHER THAN DESTRUCTIVE CRITICISM. RANGEL OBVIOUSLY ALSO ANTICIPATES THAT SALOMON MAY IN TURN BE

ABLE TO PERSUADE HIS GOVERNMENT TO TAKE SOME SPECIFIC
HUMAN RIGHTS MEASURES.

4. ONE SPECIFIC WHICH RANGEL INTENDS TO RAISE WITH
SALOMON IS THE NEED FOR THE GOH TO MAKE PUBLIC PRECISELY
WHO IT IS HOLDING IN PRISON AND FOR WHAT REASONS.
PRISONS OUGHT ALSO TO BE OPEN FOR INSPECTION.

5. RANGEL EXPECTS TO MEET WITH SALOMON SHORTLY AND
WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS ON OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS SPECIFICS
WHICH HE MIGHT USEFULLY SUGGEST TO SALOMON. REQUEST
EMBASSY VIEWS AND ANY SUGGESTIONS WHICH WE MIGHT PASS
TO RANGEL.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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